

January 3, 2006

To: Federal Communications Commission  
CC Docket No. 02-6

From: Nancy Groshong  
Douglas County School Dist 04

Re: Universal Service Fund Request Appeal  
Billed Entity Number 145035  
Form 471 Application Number 431083  
Form 486 Application Number 319031  
Funding Request Number 1197124

This is in regard to our eRate funding request for the 2004 – 2005 funding year. We received the Funding Commitment Decision Letter from the SLD on October 1, 2005 although this letter was dated March 1, 2005. We subsequently submitted the required Form 486 on October 18, 2005. Because the Form 486 was not postmarked and certified within 120 days of March 1, 2005 the SLD revised our beginning date of service to June 20, 2005 instead of the actual date of July 1, 2004. As a result, our funding for this service was reduced by approximately 92%. Our appeal to the SLD to reinstate full funding was denied.

We request that the FCC review this situation and restore our funding for the full year.

This request is based on the following:

1. We submitted the 486 Form within the required 120 days of receiving the Funding Commitment Letter from the SLD.
2. We have always met the deadlines imposed by the eRate program.
3. Even though the 486 Form was submitted less than four months after the date required by the Funding Commitment Letter, we were penalized for almost a full year of funding.
4. Our correspondence to the SLD is always sent by certified mail, but this funding commitment letter arrived via regular mail and obviously not in a timely fashion.
5. It is difficult to anticipate when funding commitment letters will arrive since they seem to follow no predictable pattern.